

[CLAIMS]

1. Method for generating an image signal for an image reproduction
from :
 - at least one page element having data representative for at
least one image portion of said image reproduction and
 - a layout signal having layout data for defining at least one
position of said image portion in said image reproduction,
wherein said page element is segmented into a plurality of
autonomic area tiles, each area tile having tile data
representative for a region of said image portion, and wherein
said tile data is stored in a memory means,comprising :
 - retrieving from said memory means said tile data according to
said layout data for generating said image signal.
2. Method according to claim 1 wherein a linear size of said
region is smaller than or equal to half a linear size of said
image portion.
3. Method according to claim 1 wherein said page element includes
offset data representative for the offset of the memory location
of said area tile within said page element within the memory
means.
4. Method according to claim 1 wherein said tile data is stored in
said memory means at contiguous memory locations.
5. Method according to claim 1 further comprising dividing at least
one autonomic area tile, into a plurality of image tiles, each
image tile representing a sub-region of said region represented
by said area tile.
6. Method according to claim 5 wherein said page element includes
offset data representative for the offset of the memory locations
of data of said image tile within said area tile.

7. Method according to claim 5 wherein a linear size of said sub-region is smaller than or equal to half the linear size of said region.

8. Method according to claim 5 further comprising :

- 5 - dividing an image tile into a plurality of image blocks, each image block having data representative for a sub-portion of said sub-region and said page element having data including reproduction parameters for said image blocks,
- 10 - accessing retrieved tile data by accessing said image blocks in an order based upon information of said layout data.

9. Method according to claim 8 wherein said page element includes offset data representative for the offset of the memory location of said image block data within said image tile.

15 10. Method according to claim 8 wherein a linear size of said sub-portion of said sub-region is smaller than or equal to half the linear size of said sub-region.

11. Method according to claim 1 further including decompressing said tile data.

20 12. Method according to claim 1 wherein said page element contains complexity data representative for an amount of processing effort needed to process said tile data of said page element.

13. Image signal generating apparatus for an image reproduction comprising :

- 25 - a memory storing :
 - data of segmented page elements representative for at least one portion of said image reproduction and
 - layout data defining at least one position of at least one image portion in said image reproduction, and a
- 30 - a processing unit
 - retrieving said data of said segmented page elements in

accordance with said layout data, and

- generating said image signal for image reproduction.

1. A method of generating an image signal for image reproduction, comprising the steps of:
a) receiving layout data;
b) generating an image signal for image reproduction in accordance with said layout data;
c) outputting said image signal for image reproduction.